



VHT Pathfinder

Volume 24, Issue 4
Winter, 2019

27 YEARS AND GROWING

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New Trails in the Works

The Town of Victor recently completed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan update. After many hours of reviewing the current inventory of parks, trails, and programs and asking the residents of Victor through surveys what they desired, the town came up with a list of items and a top priority list that will be the guide for the next several years.

One of the top priorities is a town-owned recreation center. It will be built in phases as funds become available and will include passive and active recreation programs, a field house and a possibly a therapy pool.

Another top priority is town-wide bicycle and pedestrian connectivity. This will be accomplished by expanding our existing system of trails, wider road shoulders and sidewalks in the town. This is one area that VHT can help the town. At our November 21st board meeting we selected 3 trails on the master plan to help the town pursue. It will involve talking to the landowners to get their permission, flagging the route of the trail and eventually getting a town easement.

In the northeast quadrant of town there is a proposal to connect MaryFrances Bluebird Haven Park with Village on the Park, just north of the Thruway. Also in the northwest quadrant there is a desire to connect our Monkey Run Trails with the Seneca Trail. The third trail that we are currently developing runs north from Valentown Road to a landlocked parcel of land owned by the Genesee Land Trust. We have permission from a landowner to access the property. And we will pursue continuing the trail to connect with the Crescent Trails in Perinton.

Additional details of this area can be found on the town website. Look at pages 172-176 of the Master Plan Report.

When we get to the point of needing help clearing a trail, blazing (marking) the trail and building boardwalks or bridges, we will put the call out for your help.

The Master Plan also ties in with the desire to make Victor a destination for non-motorized multi-use trails. The town, village, VHT, Chamber of Commerce and local businesses are working together to spread the word for hikers and bikers to come to Victor and enjoy our trails.

VHT MONTHLY HIKES FOR 2020

VHT 2020 Officers:

Dave Wright– Chairman
 Jeff Hennick– Vice Chairman
 Lisa Roberts– Secretary
 Ruth Rugaber– Treasurer
 Open– Trailmaster
 Chauncy Young– Trail Boss
 Denni Harbaugh– Membership
 Jeff Miller – Education
 Open— Volunteer
 Coordinator
 Lisa Roberts — Social Media
 Coordinator
 Larry Fisher—Parks Liaison

VHT Pathfinder

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The Victor Hiking Trails Pathfinder is published quarterly for the members of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. We encourage submissions of letters, editorial items and advertising pertaining to trails, Victor and the environment. Ask about our rates. To submit articles for the *VHT Pathfinder*, please contact:

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 Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.
 85 East Main Street
 Victor, NY 14564

(585) 234-8226

www.victorhikingtrails.org
 Also on Facebook
 and Meetup
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January 11, 9 a.m.– Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area

February 8, 9 a.m.– Fisher's Park

February 8, 2 p.m.– Victor Parks and Recreation Winter Fest

March 14, 8 a.m.– Cummings Nature Center

April 11, 9 a.m.– Lehigh Crossing Park

May 9, 9 a.m.– Chimney Bluffs State Park

May 17, 2 p.m.– Village of Victor Historical Hike with Victor Historian

June 6, 8:30 a.m.– National Trails Day hikes in Victor

June 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.– ADK Outdoor Expo at Mendon Ponds Park

Do you know of a cool trail to hike in 2020?

We want to lead some hikes that you are interested in. Maybe it has lots of birds, or plants or views. Maybe it is easy to hike. Or maybe it is a challenge. Perhaps a hike for the little ones. The trail doesn't have to be in Victor. We are lucky that our area has many choices for hikes. So leave us a voice mail or message on our website for suggestions for July through December.

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minute updates. Also, if you join <https://www.meetup.com/Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup>, you will get notifications of hikes and other events and reminders if you are signed up for a hike and last minute changes.

All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot, 85 East Main Street, at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Most hikes are relatively easy and take 2-3 hours. Always bring a snack and something to drink. Dress for the weather. We rarely cancel due to inclement weather.

We usually carpool to the trailhead. Expect to share the cost of gas with the driver. If you have any questions regarding any of the hikes, or if you have suggestions for places to hike, please leave a message at the VHT Message Line, 585-234-8226.

Again this year we have scheduled several hikes in Victor or the surrounding communities. We are also leading shorter and easier hikes to encourage families and younger hikers to join us. Based on the success of past years we will again be adding an educational element to some of the hikes.

We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem. **Come enjoy the fun.**

NOTE: There are several hiking Meetup groups in our area that schedule hikes in Victor. If you like to hike, join those Meetup groups as well.

Past Hikes

Oct 12, 8 a.m.— Letchworth State Park. We picked the same day as the annual arts and crafts festival, which draws folks from all over NY State and the northeast, causing potential traffic jams on the two-lane road that runs through the park. Fortunately, we arrived early, before the crowds. And we hiked the south end of the park that is less crowded. The threat of rain scared away many hikers, so there were only three VHT members to enjoy the trails.



Nov 9, 9 a.m.- Powder Mills Park. Another potential rainy morning, but it held off so we could have a good hike. 21 signed in and most completed the six miles. It was a little too hilly for some that decided to head back to the cars early. The survivors, pictured here, were treated to a great view of several deer passing through the valley below.



Dec 14, 9 a.m.— Boughton Park. This made three in a row for the rain. Again it was only three hardy souls who showed up for the hike, but again it wasn't bad. We parked at the south end of the park, so when we got to the north end it rained. So we got wet. Still a great hike.



Additional pictures of the hikes can be found on page 4-5.

Boughton Park



Letchworth State Park



Become a Board Member

The VHT Board of Directors is looking for a few people to help with the development of new trails and coordinate our volunteers for various events. Carol MacInnes, our Trailmaster since the very beginning, is stepping down. We whole-heartedly thank Carol for the many years she devoted to procuring permissions from private landowners for the creation of our many miles of trails. And we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

If you think you would like to help VHT and the Town of Victor continue the building of the system of multi-use trails in Victor, please contact us either by phone or through the website. The position will require you and an assistant to contact private landowners, share with them the vision of the long term goals of the community and discuss how they would be able to participate in expanding the trail system to make meaningful connections for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Director Jeff Miller has expressed a desire to become our Education Hike Coordinator. That leaves us with an opening for Volunteer Coordinator. This person will be responsible for contacting people on our list of volunteers and signing them up for a variety of events. Typical events include National Trails Day, Hang Around Victor Day, Winter Fest, Maple Fest, trail construction, trail improvements and trail counts.

If this is something you could help us with, please contact us by phone or website. We meet once a month on the third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Victor Town Hall. Attend a meeting and meet the board members.

Volunteer Dinner



On the evening of October 23rd, approximately 30 volunteers and guests gathered for a well deserved dinner at Finn's Tap Room and Restaurant.

It takes a team to build and maintain 65 miles of trails in Victor. The town Parks Dept. takes care of most of the trails on town property, but VHT helps where the trails are too narrow for the town's equipment. And of course VHT takes care of all the trails on private property.

Consider adding your name to the list of volunteers. It is a very rewarding experience.



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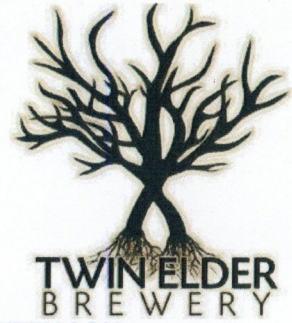
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27 YEARS AND GROWING

All VHT newsletters are now available on our website.
View it and download it in full color.

Annual membership is for 12 months, beginning when you first join. Please send your renewal check or donation promptly so we can continue to create new and improved multi-use trails.

Filling the gaps in Victor

Check out our website at
www.VictorHikingTrails.org

Join us on Facebook!
And Meetup!



VHT Map Link

Yes, I want to join / renew membership in VHT!

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____

City _____ **Zip** _____

Phone () _____ - _____

E-Mail _____

Please note that we need your e-mail address to notify you when the latest edition of our newsletter is available on our website.

I can help with: Trail Acquisition _____ Trail Maintenance _____ Trail hikes _____
 Newsletter _____ Fund Raising _____ Special Events _____ History / Education _____

Amount submitted \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ other \$ _____
 Corporate membership at \$100 per year allows all employees to be members.

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.

Make check payable to: VICTOR HIKING TRAILS, INC.
 And mail to: 85 EAST MAIN STREET
 VICTOR, NY 14564